

REMARKS

After the foregoing Amendment, Claims 1 – 3, 5 – 8, 10 – 11, and 30 – 39 are currently pending in this application. By this amendment, claims 12 – 15, and 19 – 24 and 26 – 29 have been cancelled. Applicant submits that no new matter has been introduced into the application by these amendments.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 1 – 3, 5 – 8, 10, 11, 38 and 39 are allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102(b)

Claims 12, 15, 19 – 24 and 26 – 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,335, 802 to Brach et al. The cancellation of claims 12, 15, 19 – 24 and 26 – 28 renders the rejection moot.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103(a)

Claims 13, 14 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious Brach et al. The cancellation of claims 13, 14, and 29 renders the rejection moot.

Based on the amendments presented above, only allowable claims remain in the application and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Rejoinder of Claims 30 – 37 Pursuant to MPEP 821.04

Claims 30 – 33 and 34 – 37 depend from allowed claims 1 and 6 respectively and accordingly withdrawal of the restriction and rejoinder of these claims is respectfully requested.

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Application No.: 10/501,119

Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that another telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application, including claims 1 – 3, 5 – 8, 10, 11, and 30 – 39 is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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